

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An image of a product to be inspected is taken by an electronic camera and output to a controller. An operator operates a console to apply information on setting of a desired type of inspection to the controller.

- 5 When the information on the desired type of inspection is applied, a controller guides to the operator through a video monitor an operation required for setting a comparing program suitable for the desired type of inspection. The operator can set the comparing program on the controller by operating the console in accordance with a display guidance. When the
- 10 comparing program is set, the controller compares the image of the product applied and a preliminary prepared reference image in accordance with the set comparing program for visual inspecting the product.